

in FY 2013—including \$39.1 billion in discretionary spending, \$1.4 billion in mandatory spending, and \$5.5 billion for emergency disaster relief. The measure significantly increases funding for FEMA state and local grants and for Homeland cyber-security activities.

Despite these benefits, I have concerns about how the bill disregards the mandates of the Budget Control Act, how it treats civilian employees at DHS and how the bill delves into unprecedented territory regarding the reproductive rights of women.

The spending caps set by the bi-partisan Budget Control Act ensured that prioritized programs could be funded adequately even as discretionary reductions were achieved. The harmful discretionary top-line set by the House Republican budget, and facilitated by this bill, threatens funding for other equally vital programs, threatens American jobs, and threatens the services relied upon by our seniors and our veterans.

Further, I am concerned that the bill does not fund the .5 percent cost of living adjustment provided as part of the president's FY13 budget request. Federal employees have already sacrificed \$60 billion of salary over ten years as part of the two-year pay freeze. Starting in January 2013, new federal employees will contribute more to their pensions to offset the \$15 billion cost of Unemployment Insurance Extension legislation. And with this bill, federal employees are asked to give up what was already a small .5% partial COLA. This provision essentially extends for another year the 2-year pay freeze currently covering DHS employees.

Finally, I am disappointed by the passage and inclusion in the bill of an amendment offered by STEVE KING of Iowa, which I opposed and which prohibits the use of the funds in the bill from being used to implement the so called "Morton Memos." The memos, written by ICE Director Morton, provide a plan to deploy ICE resources in the most cost effective manner. Specifically, they provide guidance to ensure that limited enforcement resources are focused primarily on criminals or other individuals who pose a threat to national security or public safety. The King amendment will prohibit the department from exercising this common sense prosecutorial discretion. It would force the Department to treat young people who were brought to the United States as kids and who have graduated from American schools the same as individuals who knowingly broke immigration laws and who have committed crimes in the United States. That makes no sense.

Bringing a bill to the floor that cuts the resources available to the men and women responsible for protecting the homeland security of the Nation and then tying their hands with unnecessary and ill-informed amendments is counterproductive and undercuts the bill's intended purpose.

CONGRATULATING THE DAVE THOMAS FOUNDATION FOR ADOPTION ON ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption on the occasion of its 20th anniversary.

This foundation, established in 1992 by Dave Thomas, has continuously strived to help every child in foster care find a loving, permanent family. It has dramatically increased the number of adoptions, including finding families for 3,000 children in the United States foster care system, and for that I commend them.

The Foundation shows its commitment to the foster care system by awarding grants to public and private adoption agencies all across the country. As a founding member of National Adoption Day, it has helped brighten the lives of countless children.

Last year's awarded grants totaled more than \$8 million and focused on supporting adoption professionals who assist the longest-waiting children from foster care into adoptive families. This genuine program, Wendy's Wonderful Kids, has increased children's likelihood of being adopted by up to three times.

As an accredited charity of the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance, Standards for Excellence certified, the Foundation has received the highest possible rating on Charity Navigator, an exceptional honor.

For these reasons, I am proud to applaud the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption for representing Central Ohio through its extraordinary contributions to the United States foster care system.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF THE HMONG PILOTS OF THE SECRET WAR IN LAOS

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, during the Vietnam War another "secret war" was taking place in Laos with thousands of Hmong fighters assisting the U.S. The Hmong who risked their lives for the freedom of their country and in the aid of the U.S. suffered tremendously as they served with great courage.

This weekend in Maplewood, Minnesota, a little known group of Hmong pilot veterans of the secret war gathered and were recognized by the U.S. Air Force in appreciation of their heroism. Supported by the U.S., some 38 Hmong pilots were trained to fly counterinsurgency missions between 1967 and 1975. Seventeen of those pilots are alive today and were honored, along with posthumous awards for 21 deceased colleagues, by Air Force Chief of Staff, General Norton Schwartz.

I, too, would like to recognize and honor those brave Hmong pilots who are living examples of courage, along with the pilots who

sacrificed their lives. The secret war was a difficult and painful time for the Hmong people. Today, decades later, Minnesota is the home to many who lived through those years of war and suffering. As Hmong Americans of all generations contribute to making Minnesota and the U.S. a stronger and more prosperous land, we must never forget the service, sacrifice, and courage of the Hmong warriors who fought on land and in the sky for freedom during the secret war.

Again, I join in the recognition and remembrance of 38 Hmong pilots who risked their lives for freedom.

RECOGNIZING ROCKWELL MUSEUM OF WESTERN ART

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Rockwell Museum of Western Art as the 29th District of New York's most recently accredited museum. The Rockwell Museum was just awarded accreditation by the American Association of Museums, the highest national recognition a museum can receive for their commitment to public service and excellence in education.

The American Association of Museums states that there are over 17,500 museums in the United States and less than 800 are accredited. These numbers would place the Rockwell Museum of Western Art in a very elite category and I am proud to represent this museum.

The Rockwell Museum of Western Art inspires and educates people of all ages. Its vision inspires the staff to strive towards making the museum a resource for study, knowledge, and entertainment by local and national audiences. I encourage everyone to stop in and visit the Rockwell Museum next time you are in Corning, New York.

CONGRATULATING JAMES FARR

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. James Farr of Rochester, New York for his three-year appointment to the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Commission. The Commission was established by P.L. 106-554 to assist in the preservation, maintenance and interpretation of the historical, natural, cultural, scenic and recreational resources of the Erie Canalway in ways that reflect its national significance. I nominated Jim for the Corridor's Commission on August 25, 2011, and am delighted to have a dedicated member of the Rochester community represented on the Commission.

As an employee of the City of Rochester for over 34 years, Jim's passion for improving this great area of New York will serve as an integral asset to the Commission. He has represented the city as a committee member on both of the World Canal Conferences held in Rochester and has also assisted with and attended a number of the Canal Society of New